

RUNCORN RURAL DISTRICT



# Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December,

1938.



RUNCORN :-

J. S. Edwards, Printer, 68 High Street. Tel. 2405.

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1939.



**Rural District Authority  
of Runcorn**

**ANNUAL REPORT**


**1938**

BY

**E. N. HILLMAN GRAY,**

L.R.C.P. & S., L.M., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



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# CONTENTS.

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List of Councillors and Staff	...	...	...	...	Page
Introduction	...	...	...	...	5

## Section A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area	...	7
Vital Statistics (Live Births, Still Births, Deaths, etc.)	...	8
Table of Comparative Rates	...	9

## Section B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area	...	10
Small Pox Hospital	...	12
Dutton Isolation Hospital	...	12

## Section C

Sanitary Circumstances	...	...	...	...	13
1. (I) Water	...	...	...	...	13
(II) Drainage and Sewerage	...	...	...	...	14
2. Rivers and Streams	...	...	...	...	15
3. (I) Closet Accommodation	...	...	...	...	15
(II) Public Cleansing	...	...	...	...	15
III. Sanitary Inspection of the Area	...	...	...	...	17
Summary of Visits and Inspections	...	...	...	...	17
IV. Shops	...	...	...	...	18
V. Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	18
VI. Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	18
VII. Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	18
VIII. Eradication of Bed-Bugs	...	...	...	...	18
IX. Mortuaries	...	...	...	...	18
4. Schools	...	...	...	...	19
Factories	...	...	...	...	20

## Section D.

	Page
Housing ... ..	21
4. Housing Act 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding ...	24

## Section E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food, ... ..	25
(a) Milk supply ... ..	25
Milk (Special Designations) Order) 1936 ... ..	25
(b) Meat and other Foods ... ..	26
Carcases inspected and condemned ... ..	26
Adulteration, etc.(Foods & Drugs Adulteration Act.)	26
Particulars of Samples adulterated or not up to Standard	27
(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food ...	27
(e) Nutrition ... ..	28
(f) Shell-fish (Molluscan) ... ..	28

## Section F.

Prevalence and control over Infectious and other Diseases,	28
Isolation Hospital Report ... ..	29
Immunisation Scheme ... ..	36
Formalin Treatment of Diphtheria Cases ... ..	36
In cases where FORMALIN TREATMENT is unsuccessful	37
Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis	
during year 1938 ... ..	28
Hospital Accommodation ... ..	33
Antitoxin ... ..	33
Swabs ... ..	10, 36
Incidence of Infectious Diseases. ... ..	29
Cases removed to Hospital ... ..	29
Table of Cancer Deaths ... ..	33
Total Deaths and Causes ... ..	30
Birth-rates, Death-rates notified, etc, England & Wales	52
(a) Prevention of Blindness ... ..	34
(b) Tuberculosis ... ..	34
Sputums ... ..	35
Tuberculosis cases on register, comparative rates ...	35
Annual Report of Canal Boat Inspector ... ..	38

# Members of the Rural District Council of Runcorn.

*Name.*

*Parish Representative.*

## *Chairman—*

\*\* W. S. Looker, Esq., J.P. HALTON.

## *Vice-Chairman—*

††\*\* J. W. Crossley, Esq. STOCKTON HEATH.

\*\* J. Garner, Esq. ALVANLEY.

ANTROBUS.

\* T. I. Fletcher, Esq. APPLETON.

\*\* G. W. A. Brown, Esq. APPLETON.

\*\* T. C. Shepherd, Esq. ASTON.

\* H. Walton, Esq. GREAT BUDWORTH.

\* G. S. Wallworth, Esq. DARESBUURY.

\*\* F. A. Dutton, Esq. DUTTON.

†\* F. Basnett, Esq. FRODSHAM.

\* J. G. Davies, Esq. FRODSHAM.

\*\* H. Helsby, Esq. FRODSHAM.

\*\* L. Pollard, Esq. FRODSHAM.

\* H. T. Nicholls, Esq. GRAPPENHALL.

\*\* W. A. Howard, Esq. GRAPPENHALL.

\* W. Postons, Esq. GRAPPENHALL.

W. Fowles, Esq. HATTON.

\*\* H. Jackson, Esq. HELSBY.

§ C. Wilkinson, Esq. HELSBY.

\* J. Hunt, Esq. KINGSLEY.

\*\* T. Gleave, Esq. MANLEY.

\*\* Mrs. Frodsham. MOORE.

§§\*\* S. Newall, Esq. NORLEY.

W. Fryer, Esq. NORTON.

J. T. Cowap, Esq. PRESTON BROOK.

\* T. Deakin, Esq. STOCKTON HEATH.

\* E. G. White, Esq. STOCKTON HEATH.

\*\* R. E. Payton, Esq. STOCKTON HEATH.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Parish Representative.</i>
* J. Hewitt, Esq.	STRETTON.
** P. Moore, Esq.	SUTTON.
* G. F. Hatton. Esq.	WALTON.
J. C. Taylor, Esq.	WHITLEY.
* denotes Member of Public Health Committee.	
** denotes Member of Housing & Building Committee.	
† denotes Chairman of Public Health Committee.	
§ denotes Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee.	
†† denotes Chairman of Housing & Building Committee.	
§§ denotes Vice-Chairman of Housing & Building Committee.	

## OFFICERS.

<i>Clerk.</i>	<i>Deputy Clerk.</i>
Mr. Stanley Dennett, Frodsham.	Mr. J. A. Moorefield, Frodsham.

*Engineer and Surveyor.—*  
A. J. King, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.M. & Cy. E., Frodsham.

*Solicitor—*  
Mr. W. E. Hough, Runcorn.

## Officials of Public Health Department.

*Medical Officer of Health*  
*and Medical Superintendent Dutton Isolation Hospital,*  
Dr E. N. Hillman Gray, L.R.C.P. & S., L.M., D.P.H.

*Sanitary Inspectors and Meat and Food Inspectors.*

*Budworth Area—*  
G. W. Lloyd, R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Appleton.  
Tel. Stockton Heath 180.

*Frodsham Area—*  
D. Boothman, M.S.I.A., Frodsham.  
Tel. Frodsham 286.

*Matron Dutton Isolation Hospital—*  
Miss L. Whitehead.  
Tel. Aston 201.



# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1938.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Runcorn  
Rural District Council.*

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Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st., together with vital statistics and the Report of the Sanitary Administration of the Rural District.

I commenced my duties here on 1st April, 1938 as Medical Officer of Health of the Runcorn Urban and Rural Districts. Prior to this period Dr. C. E. W. Bower had been acting as part time Medical Officer of Health and I have to thank him for his help; he also has acted for me when I was away for any reason vide arrangements made by my Council.

This has been an exceptionally busy year owing to the varied and increased duties connected with the Air Raid Precautions Services together with Public Health Administration.

During the year under review, the total number of Infectious cases are more than in the previous year. Furthermore it has been a year of anxiety in regard to Diphtheria cases, as these have increased from 27 in the year 1937 to 135 for this year.

The use of Anti-Streptococcal serum in conjunction with Anti-Diphtheritic serum in the treatment of mixed cases of Diphtheria in the Isolation Hospital has been outstanding in its effect.

A Cubicle Block may be required to meet the needs of the Isolation Hospital accommodation.

The Formalin Treatment as mentioned in the Report has proved satisfactory in the treatment of Nasal and Throat Diphtheria carriers, also in the preventive treatment of immediate contacts of Diphtheria.

It is realised that the progress in Public Health matters is based on the question of finance, and it is hoped that this question will be satisfactorily settled by all concerned so that the necessary Public Health matters may be proceeded with at greater speed, especially housing.

The population, estimated to the middle of 1938, is 31,790, showing an increase of 500.

The birth rate and death rate are 13.06 and 12.2 respectively. Last year's figures were 13.5 and 11.4. For England and Wales the figures are 15.1 and 11.6 this year.

The infantile mortality rate is 41 ; for England and Wales 55. 427 houses have been erected during 1938, compared with 627 in 1937 and 482 in 1936.

Owing to the increased and varied duties of the Public Health Department, and the fact that the Ministry of Health recommend one Sanitary Inspector to every 10,000 of population, and taking into consideration the vast amount of increased work which will be entailed following on the County Medical Officer of Health's Report on Housing I very strongly recommend the appointment of a third Sanitary Inspector.

An outbreak of Bacillary Dysentery occurred in May in the Parish of Hatton involving six cases (children). Immediate action was taken to limit the outbreak and to trace the cause. The children were treated at home by their own doctors in consultation with me.

Special attention was paid regarding flyproofing pail closets, privies, and food larders, the disposal of faeces and refuse, and the use of disinfectants, also strict cleanliness of hands and nails. All milk and water supplies concerned were tested and found to be satisfactory.

It cannot be too strongly stressed that the following should be available in all districts where practicable :-

- (i) A W.C. system and a proper system of sewage disposal.
- (ii) A pure main water supply.
- (iii) A system of controlled refuse disposal.
- (iv) Accredited, F.T., or pasteurised milk.
- (v) Ventilated and flyproof larders in all dwellinghouses.

It is only by having these that we can help to obviate such serious intestinal diseases as dysentery and typhoid.

There were no deaths in this outbreak, though some of the children suffered severely.

Special attention is drawn to my remarks on Meat Inspection on Page 26.

I wish to return my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their invaluable help and co-operation, also to the Clerk to the Council, Mr. Stanley Dennett and his staff ; the Surveyor, Mr. A. J. King and his staff ; the local Doctors ; Matron of the Isolation Hospital, Miss L. Whitehead ; the Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. G. W Lloyd, Mr. D. Boothman ; the Clerk in the Public Health Department, Mr. T. Worrall.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

E. N. HILLMAN GRAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION A.

### Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (in acres) 45,765.

Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population—middle of 1938 (for readjusted area)—31,790.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books—9599.

Rateable Value (end of 1938) £200,029.

Sum represented by penny rate—£802

This year statistics are based on the Registrar-General's estimated population for the middle of 1938.

Agriculture and Dairy Farming are the chief industries of the district; other industries are Tanneries, Electric Cable, Electric Fittings and Steel Tube Works, Flour Mills and Jam Works. Sand Quarrying is being carried on in the district, chiefly at Whitley and Moore.

Parts of the district are mainly residential.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT.

Exact statistics are not available for this area, as the figures obtained by the local offices of the Ministry of Labour relate to the areas served by such offices, and these areas are not identical with the Runcorn Rural District. The incidence of unemployment however was low in the area.

Many of the inhabitants are employed in industrial areas outside the district. Others are employed on the railways and as porters in canal warehouses.

#### ORPHANAGES.

There are two Orphanages one at Kingsley (350 children), and one at Daresbury (60 children); one open-air school for Jewish children at Norley; two sanatoria at Manley, each accommodating about 300 persons.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.	M.	F.	Total	Birth Rate per 1,000 of
Legitimate	205	203	408	the estimated resident
Illegitimate	2	5	7	population—13.06
STILL BIRTHS.	9	8	17	Rate per 1,000 total (live
				and still) births—39
DEATHS.	206	182	388	Death Rate per 1,000 of
				the estimated resident
				population, 12.2

## DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	
		Runcorn R D C.	England & Wales
Puerperal Sepsis . . .	1	2.31	0.86
Other Puerperal Causes . . .	2	4.62	2.11
Total	3	6.93	2.97

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—

All Infants per 1,000 live births . . .	..	..	..	41
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births . . .				41
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) . . .	..	..	..	49
„ „ Measles (all ages) . . .	..	..	..	1
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) . . .	..	..	..	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) . . .	..	..	..	2

The causes of the highest mortality were : Heart Disease, and Cancer.

Inquests were held in 23 cases of death.

For comparison the following figures are given :—

Year	Population	Birth rate	Death rate	Infantile Mortality rate
1916	28216	18.2	13.8	—
1917	29163	15.8	11.9	—
1918	27545	15.7	13.6	—
1919	28291	16.0	12.7	—
1920	28242	12.2	10.6	53
1921	29170	17.6	9.9	78
1922	29230	16.2	10.9	55
1923	29200	15.1	10.6	50
1924	29370	14.9	9.9	46
1925	29560	14.2	10.8	64
1926	29660	14.1	9.7	67
1927	29360	13.6	10.2	50
1928	30580	14.1	9.5	41
1929	30940	14.4	10.2	52
1930	30940	13.9	10.2	67
1931	32570	13.7	9.0	39
1932	32570	11.6	10.0	32
1933	32280	12.5	11.6	49
1934	32920	12.9	10.9	49
1935	34140	13.1	11.0	36
1936	30405	13.0	11.1	41
1937	31290	13.5	11.4	43
1938	31790	13.06	12.2	41

A table in the appendix gives the birth rate, death rate and analysis of mortality during the year 1938 and comparisons with England and Wales, London and the other great and smaller towns.

## SECTION B.

## General Provision of Health Services for the Area

## I Public Health Officers of Local Authority.

The names and qualifications are detailed at the beginning of the Report.

## II. Facilities.

## (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

(i) *Water*.—Chemical and Bacteriological analyses are made by the County Analyst, Higher Broughton, Manchester.

(ii) *Food*.—Analyses are made by the County Analyst under the Foods and Drugs Acts.

(iii) *Milk*.—Bacteriological examinations and guinea pig inoculations are done at the Runcorn Research Laboratory. 30 samples were submitted in 1938. All were negative.

(iv) Throat swabs and other clinical material are examined at the Runcorn Research Laboratory, Evans Sons, Lescher & Webb, Ltd., for the diagnosis of infectious diseases, and in all cases of Surgical T.B. a sample of milk is taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, as already mentioned all samples submitted were found to be negative.

## (b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Two well-equipped ambulances are maintained by the Local Authority. They are garaged at Dutton, in the centre of the area, whence there is easy access to all parts. One is used for infectious cases, and the other for non-infectious and accident cases. Arrangements are in force with the Urban District for the co-ordination of ambulance services. The service is adequate and well managed.

The non-infectious ambulance dealt with 63 cases in 1938, compared with 46 in 1937.

It is desirable that the ambulance facilities provided should be widely known throughout the area, so that full use may be made of them.

## (c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

(i) *General*—The whole of the area is served by 11 Local Nursing Associations. Each employs one trained nurse. These Associations work independently of the County & District Councils. Some of the District Nurses act also as midwives, and are supervised by the County Authority.

(ii) *Infectious Diseases*—No provision is made for the nursing of infectious diseases in the home.

## (d) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

These are provided by the County Council as follows :—

*Maternity and Child Welfare—*

Child Welfare Centres : Methodist Sunday School, Stockton Heath—Alternate Mondays, 2-30 p.m.

Methodist Sunday School, Grappenhall—Alternate Mondays, 2-30 p.m.

Trinity Church House, Frodsham—Tuesdays 2-30 p.m.

29, High Street, Runcorn—Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 2-30 p.m.

Ante-natal services : Ante-natal Clinic, 29 High Street, Runcorn—Thursday, 9-30 a.m. Any expectant mother may be examined twice by a doctor of her own choice at her own home.

*Orthopaedic Clinics—*

Methodist Sunday School, Stockton Heath—Tuesday and Friday, 2-30 p.m.

29 High Street, Runcorn—Tuesday and Friday, 11 a.m.

*Tuberculosis*

Tuberculosis Dispensary, Memorial Hospital, Runcorn—Thursday 11 a.m.

*School Medical Service —*

Minor Ailments Clinic—Trinity Church House, Frodsham—Friday, 2 p.m.

29 High Street, Runcorn—Monday, Thursday, Friday 2 p.m.  
Tuesday & Wednesday 9-30 a.m.



## (c) HOSPITALS.

*Dutton Isolation Hospital*—56 beds. is under the control of the Runcorn Rural District Council, and is staffed by Dr. E. N. Hillman Gray as Medical Superintendent, Matron, Sister, assistant Nurse and 2 Probationers. Extra nursing staff is engaged when necessary for special cases. Two porters (one resident) are employed at the Hospital, they do ambulance work and disinfection, in addition to their hospital duties.

Provision is made for the employment of a surgical specialist for any case requiring his advice and skill.

External painting and decorating has been carried out at the Isolation Hospital, the ceilings to the Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever and Diphtheria Wards have been papered and decorated and internal painting and decorating has been carried out to the Bathroom, W.C., Nurses' Bedroom in the Administration Block and the Hall, Landing and Staircase in the Lodge. Two electric power plugs have also been fitted in the Lodge.

Low pressure Heating Apparatus has been installed in the Diphtheria Block and also high pressure Heating Apparatus in the Laundry. A new boiler house has been erected adjoining the Diphtheria Block and alterations have been carried out in the Laundry Block to accommodate the high pressure Heating Apparatus. A new washing boiler has also been fitted in the Laundry.

Repairs have been effected to linen cupboards, new poison cupboards have been fixed and wooden chart frames supplied.

Three new outside lights have been fixed to the Administration Block, Diphtheria Block and garage.

Arrangements have been made for the admission of cases from other areas of the County in accordance with the scheme for co-ordination of Hospital accommodation throughout the County.

*Warrington Corporation Small Pox Hospital at Sankey*—The right to send small pox patients to this hospital has been reserved by the Council and an annual subsidy is paid to the Warrington Corporation for this purpose.

*Dutton Institution*—64 beds. Controlled by Public Assistance Committee of the County. This infirmary is classified for admission of chronic sick cases. Cases requiring special treatment are transferred to Clatterbridge General Hospital (Wirral) and elsewhere.



Voluntary hospitals receiving patients from this area :—

Manchester Royal Infirmary  
 Chester „ „  
 Liverpool „ „  
 Liverpool Southern Hospital  
 Liverpool Northern Hospital  
 Liverpool Ear and Throat Hospital  
 Victoria Memorial Hospital, Runcorn  
 Warrington Infirmary  
 Northwich „ „  
 Altrincham General Hospital  
 Manchester Royal Eye Hospital

There are two private maternity homes in the area, one at Frodsham and one at Grappenhall.

### SECTION C.

#### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

1. (a) *Water*—No new sources of public water supply in 1938

(b) *Extension of Water Mains*—

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Size of Main</i>	<i>Length laid</i>
Helsby	3"	130 yds
„	2 "	100 „
Alvanley	3"	154 „
Frodsham	3"	96 „
Antrobus	3"	726 „
„	1½"	230 „
Manley	3"	316 „

TOTAL 1752 „

#### Frodsham, Helsby and District Water Supply.

The work carried out by direct labour in the autumn and winter of 1937 to safeguard the Council's water supplies at Frodsham and Helsby have been incorporated into a scheme for the distribution of water to the Frodsham and Helsby areas from the proposed reservoir on Harrol Edge.

Up to the time of going to press the following additional mains have been laid by direct labour under this scheme and work is progressing favourably on the remaining lengths :—

3" mains	...	330 yards
7" „	...	1,913 „
9" „	...	1,525 „

165 samples of water have been submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination, as follows:—

						Total
Budworth Area: 40 satisfactory. 44 unsatisfactory. 5 borderline						89
Frodsham Area: 49	„	20	„	7	„	76
—		—		—		—
89	„	64	„	12	„	165

It has been a recommendation to the Council that where possible a pure main water supply should be provided; in other cases owners have been requested to improve their supply, bringing their wells up to standard in every way, or failing this, sinking fresh wells.

In all cases where water is reported by the County Analyst to be unfit occupiers of the premises are requested to boil the water for drinking, dietetic and dairy purposes.

### Drainage and Sewerage

#### Sewer Extensions

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Length laid.</i>
Halton (Main Street)	9" stoneware	155 yards
Frodsham (Ship Street)	9" „	94 „
<i>Stockton Heath (Lumbbrook)</i>		

The laying of 820 yards of 12" dia. stoneware sewer is at present taking place at Lumbbrook, Stockton Heath, and over 400 yards have been laid at the time of going to press.

#### Sewerage Schemes in Preparation and Contemplation.

A scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the Parish of Sutton, including Clifton, is in course of preparation and the plans will soon be ready for submission to the Ministry of Health for the necessary loan.

Plans for sewerage and sewage disposal at Budworth are in hand, and schemes which will be proceeded with when the above are at the Ministry will be a complete sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Kingsley and a scheme for the Parish of Stretton which will consist of laying new sewers and pumping to existing sewers which have their outfall at the Acton Grange Sewerage Works.

It will also soon be necessary to extend the works at Acton Grange owing to the fact that these works are almost now working at full capacity and many house connections have yet to be made.

### CESSPOOLS AND SEPTIC TANKS. (Old Type)

In my opinion these should not be installed, but where sewers are not practicable, a tank plus a suitable filter is recommended.

#### 2. *Rivers and Streams Tannery Effluent.*

The Co-operative Wholesale Society's Tannery at Cliffe Lane, Grappenhall, are in the process of constructing Tanks and Percolating Filters in order to render the liquor to the necessary standard allowed to be admitted into the Council's sewers.

The Grappenhall Tanning Company are now preparing a scheme to achieve the same object.

When these two Tanneries are connected to the public sewer it will have the effect of obviating a nuisance which has been in existence for many years.

Owing to the increase in housing in the Parish of Stretton, the Bradley Brook is now seriously polluted with sewage, and in dry weather gives rise to serious nuisance, and is a serious menace to the dairy farms through which it runs. Further extensions of the main drainage scheme to serve the north end of the Parish should prevent this.

5. (i) *Closet Accommodation*.—Conversion to water closets from pail closets, Frodsham 3, Sutton 9.

#### (ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A system of refuse removal and disposal has been arranged for the Parishes of Alvanley, Aston, Daresbury, Dutton, Hatton Kingsley and Norley.

Only three Parishes—Autrobus, Norton and Whitley—have no refuse disposal system in operation at present, but part of the Parish of Antrobus is under consideration.

Collection work is carried out by five contractors, one in Budworth District, and four in Frodsham District.

Disposal is by semi-controlled tipping at thirteen tips, five in Budworth District, and eight in Frodsham District.

Two tip attendants are engaged by the Council, each man working full time, at the main depots of each area. Particulars of the work are given below.

			<i>Budworth District</i>	<i>Frodsham District</i>
Parishes	...	...	9	11
Houses (Ashbin Refuse)	...	...	5519	3459
Pail Closets	...	...	391	189
Pit Closets	...	...	2	69
Cost of collection per year	...	...	£2340	£1704

Total cost of collection, 20 Parishes £4044 per year.

Cost of disposal includes Tip Men's wages, soiling and carting work at the 13 tips : £600 per year approx.

Disposal costs vary annually according to amount of soiling needed, repairs to roads, fencing, etc.

Additional to the above is a trade refuse removal and disposal system operating under Section 73, Public Health Act 1936, in Grappenhall and Stockton Heath, serving 48 trade premises, the cost of collection £64 per year, being paid by the Tradesmen.

## (III) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Details of Inspections by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1938:

Nature of Inspections	No of Inspections	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices
Houses (Housing Acts)	147	30	16
„ (Public Health Acts)	56	38	
„ (Number of Inmates)	155	4	
Schools	75	2	
Camping Grounds	55		
Water Supplies (Samples)	165	138	61
„ (Other Inspections)	42	10	
Defective Roofs, Gutters, etc.	31	21	
Ashplaces, Earth Closets	81	41	
Drains, Sanitary Fittings	144	79	5
Cesspools	6	6	
Ditches, Brooks	29	27	
Sewer matters (includes colour-testing for drain connections)	72	25	
Refuse, Collection & Disposal	516	81	
Streets, Yards, Passages	22	22	
Foul accumulations	10	8	
Re Vermin (Rats, Bugs, etc.)	16	13	
Slaughter Houses	28	2	
Piggeries	17	2	
Offensive Trades	14		
Dairy Farms	449	18	15
Milk Retailers	87		
Milk Tests and Inquiries	23	6	
Factories and Workshops	72	1	1
Shops and Food Stores	218	2	
Meat Inspection Visits	329		
Canal Boats	24		
Zymotic Inquiries	231		
Visits to Contacts and Schools	94		
Mortuaries	14		
Miscellaneous	133	26	
Total	3355	602	98

The numerous re-visits and interviews following up Notices, etc., are not included above.

Matters in hand for further action in 1939 :—

Housing 23

Water 13

General 11

Numbers on the various Registers end of 1938 :—

Milk Producers	399	(223 of which are Accredited and 8 T.T.)
Milk Purveyors	151	
Factories	135	(39 of which use Mechanical Power)
Slaughter Houses	11	(6 of which are Licensed)
Slaughtermen	38	
Shops	290	(170 of which are Food Stores)
Petrol Stores	87	
Schools	35	
Camping Grounds	25	
Knaacker Yard	1	
Game Dealers	2	

(iv.) *Shops*—218 inspections have been made under the Shops Act, 1934, and for other purposes, and two informal notices complied with. There are 118 shops listed in the Budworth area and 164 in the Frodsham area.

(v) *Camping Sites*

1. Number of sites in the area which were used for Camping purposes	...	...	...	...	25
2. Number of Camping Sites in respect of which Licences have been issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936.	...	...	...	...	20
3. Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time, during the summer season 1938.	...	...	...	...	250

(vi) *Smoke Abatement* The Council remains a constituent authority with the Manchester Regional Smoke Abatement Committee and makes a contribution to its funds for providing special Smoke Inspectors.

(vii) *Swimming Baths and Pools*—There are no Public Swimming Baths in the District.

(viii) *Eradication of Bed Bugs*—

(1) No. of (a) Council houses infested	0,	disinfested	0
„ (b) Other houses	„	7,	„ 7

Of the 7 houses, 3 were in Stockton Heath, 1 Stretton, 1 Halton, 2 Frodsham.

(2) Houses infested were sprayed with "Zaldecide."

(5) Bedding is disinfected in steam steriliser. Furniture is in some cases condemned and destroyed, and the H.C.N. Van method used in two cases.

(4) Disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.

(5) Frequent visits are made by the Sanitary Inspectors to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing, and to educate the tenants in this respect.

(ix) *Mortuaries*—The mortuaries controlled by the Council at Frodsham and Stockton Heath are in a satisfactory sanitary condition, but a new slab would be beneficial in the Frodsham Mortuary.

4. *Schools*—The sanitary condition and water supply of most of the Schools are satisfactory. In some Schools improvements in the closet accommodation is desirable.

The following schools we closed for the periods stated in 1938:-

Kingsley Junior Mixed and Infants	3rd Feb	19 days	Influenza
Moore Council Infants ... ..	19th „	14 „	Pertussis
Frodsham Boys Endowed... ..	12th Mar.	14 „	Diphtheria
Frodsham C. of E Girls ... ..	29th „	19 „	Pertussis
„ „ „ Infants ... ..	4th Apr.	10 „	„



# FACTORIES.

## HOME OFFICE FORM 572.

Factory & Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

PREMISES (1)	NUMBER OF		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with Mechanical Power ... ..	2	2	Nil
Factories without Mechanical Power ... ..	70	Nil	Nil
Other Premises under the Act (including works of Building and Engineering Construction but not including outworkers premises) .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ... ..	72	2	Nil

- 2 Defects Found.

PARTICULARS (1)	NUMBER OF DEFECTS			Number of Defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—				
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6.) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (Insufficient or unsuitable or defective (S.7.) (Not separate for sexes	2	2	—	—
Other Offences (not including offences relating to home work or offences under the sections mentioned in the Schedule to Ministry of Health. ... ..	—	—	—	—
(Factories & Workshops Transfer of Powers order 1921, and re-enacted in the third Schedule to the Factories Act 1937).	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	2	2	—	—



*Outwork in unwholesome Premises, Section 108.*

There is nothing to report under this section in this Area.

**SECTION D.****HOUSING.****NEW HOUSES IN 1938.**

Number of new houses erected by Local Authority	...	28
Number of new houses erected by other bodies and persons		399
		<hr/>
		TOTAL 427

				New Houses erected 1938		No of inhabited houses in Rural District 31st Dec. 1938
				Total per Parish		
				Private	Local Authority	
Parishes						
Alvanley	...	...	...	5	2	76
Antrobus	...	...	...	5	—	199
Appleton	...	...	...	111	4	656
Aston	...	...	...	1	—	64
Budworth (Great)	...	...	...	2	—	109
Daresbury	...	...	...	—	—	69
Dutton	...	...	...	—	—	92
Frodsham	...	...	...	27	2	1332
Grappenhall	...	...	...	101	6	1545
Halton	...	...	...	23	—	390
Hatton	...	...	...	4	—	92
Helsby	..	...	...	44	6	692
Kingsley	...	...	...	7	8	338
Manley	...	...	...	4	—	124
Moore	...	...	...	—	—	153
Norley	...	...	...	3	—	256
Norton	...	...	...	—	—	42
Preston Brook	...	...	...	—	—	112
Stockton Heath	...	...	...	36	—	2109
Stretton	...	...	...	2	—	125
Sutton	...	...	...	11	—	181
Walton	...	...	...	13	—	487
Whitley	...	...	...	2	—	156
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	...	...	...	399	28	9399

## HOUSING INSPECTION

### 1 *Inspection of Dwelling houses during the Year :*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	..	...	...	205
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	..	...	205
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	...	...	...	147
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	147
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...			29
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...		118

### 2 *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	146
---	-----	-----

### 3 *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year,*

#### A. Proceedings under Sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	5
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:

(a) by Owners	...	...	5
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 56 .

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice : —

(a) by Owners	...	...	56
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	Nil

C. Proceedings under sections 11, 12 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 11

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 16

D. Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil

4. *Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.*

	1937	1938
(a) - (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	58	50
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	58	50
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	374	202
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	14	9
(c) — (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	20	37
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	128½	256
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	Nil	Nil

This analysis shows that there are 50 houses overcrowded at the end of the year, the number of persons concerned in such houses being 202.

Of the 37 cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 25 have been re-housed in Council houses, 3 removed to larger houses, 7 marriage of son or daughter, 1 left the district, 1 death. 22 houses are licensed for slight temporary overcrowding at end of 1938. The net result shows that 8 new houses are required in various parishes to meet the requirements of the overcrowding, these are in hand.

New Houses Erected—			
	by Local Authority	by other persons	Total
1951	12	142	154
1952	14	524	538
1955	6	401	407
1954	Nil	622	622
1955	12	455	447
1956	8	474	482
1957	28	599	627
1958	28	599	427

## SECTION E.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) *Milk Supply* :—

			Budworth	Frodsham	Total
			Area	Area	
No. of Producers registered	...	...	176	223	399
No. of Retail Dairymen registered	...	...	100	51	151
No. of Producers of Accredited Milk	...	...	97	128	225
No. of Producers of T.T. Milk	...	...	3	3	6
No. of Cowsheds "improved" in 1958	...	...	5	5	10
No. of Samples examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli	...	...	15	6	19
No. of these Samples found to contain Tubercle Bacilli	...	...	—	—	—
No. of Adverse Reports from outside Authorities	...	...	2	—	2

More than half the producers registered in the area are producers of accredited milk.

Two reports of unclean milk and high bacterial count and presence of B. Coli were dealt with by visits of the Sanitary Inspectors to the farms concerned, and repeated tests until a clean milk was obtained

Periodical inspections are made by the Sanitary Inspectors under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

No. of persons licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested (Certified)	1
do. do. Tuberculin Tested Milk	6
do. do. Accredited Milk	225
do. licensed to bottle and sell Accredited Milk	0
No. of Pasteurisers' Licences	0

(b) *Meat and other Foods :—*

MEAT—The Sanitary Inspectors act as Meat Inspectors. Details of their work are given in the appended Report.

The Sanitary Inspector reports that in the Frodsham District, owing to the many and varied increased duties of the Public Health Department, he is not able to carry out all the inspections he would like. This is a serious state of affairs and should be remedied at an early date.

OTHER FOODS The Sanitary conditions of bakehouses and other places where food is prepared or exposed for sale are good.

All licences under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 were renewed.

No meat marking scheme under Part III of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, is in force in this district.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed ... ..	734	4	2262	3568
No. inspected ... ..	269	1	740	1758
All diseases except Tuberculosis—				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	—	—	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	1.86	—	—	.23
Tuberculosis only—				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	8	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	11	—	—	27
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.06	—	—	1.65

(c) *Adulteration, etc.* I am indebted to Mr. Stacey Hallard, Chief Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, for the following report of the work of his Department in the Runcorn Rural District during 1938.—

## SAMPLES OBTAINED DURING YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1938.

Name of Sample	Number Obtained	Adulterated or not up to Standard	Name of Sample	Number Obtained	Adulterated or not up to Standard
Ammoniated Tincture of Quin	1		Iodised Throat Lozenges	1	
Boracic Ointment	1		Milk	24	7
Butter	1		Madeira Cake	1	
Castor Oil	1		Margarine	1	
Camphorated Oil	1		Oatmeal	1	
Cheese, Cheshire	1		Olive Oil	1	
Cream, Fresh	1		Pearl Barley	1	
Epsom Salts	1		Peas, Dried	1	
Eucalyptus Oil	1		Rice	1	
Fish Paste	1		Semolina	1	
Flour Plain	1		Sweets	1	
Gin	1		Sulphur Tablets	1	
Ginger Ground	1		Whiskey	1	
Glycerine	1		Zinc Ointment	1	
Gregory Powder	1				
				52	7

## PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES REPORTED AGAINST.

			Remarks
1.	Milk	3.7% deficient in non-fatty solids	Abnormal.
2.	„	2.7% „ „	In course of delivery - Seller cautioned.
3.	„	12% deficient in fat, 0.47% deficient in non-fatty solids	Appeal-to-cow. corresponding to No. 2.

You will notice that out of the 52 samples only three were reported against and in each of these cases the deficiency in the sample was due to some abnormal condition of the cow

It can safely be said that no evidence of the wilful adulteration of any foodstuffs was disclosed during the year under review ; a very satisfactory state of affairs.

(d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food—*

This work is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester. No examinations were made during 1938.

(e) Nutrition— Notice has been brought before the County Council asking them to have a supply of the Doctor's Cookery Book available for Mothers attending the Clinic. This has been arranged. This book was also supplied to Domestic Science Classes, Mothers' Guilds and others to whom I thought it would be useful.

(f) *Shell Fish (Molluscan)*—There are no shell fish beds or layings in the district.

Shell fish are not marketed regularly anywhere in the district.

Mussels and shrimps are sold in the area by hawkers from Runcorn. The mussels are obtained from the Dee estuary at Neston and Parkgate. The shrimps are obtained from the Mersey estuary.

## SECTION F.

### PRÉVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

4

The following is a summary of notifiable infectious diseases other than Tuberculosis, during the year 1938.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	64	53	—
Diphtheria ...	135	103	3
Encephalitis			
Lethargica ...	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	7	1	
Pneumonia ...	34	1	17
Erysipelas ...	10	4	—
Ophthalmia			
Neonatorum ...	3	—	—
Sonne Dysentery ...	7	—	—
Cowpox ...	1	1	—
Total ...	262	163	20



## ISOLATION HOSPITAL REPORT.

	Runcorn Rural	Other District
No. of Patients in Hospital, 1st Jan. 1938	5	—
„ admitted during 1938	134	27
„ discharged during 1938	127	26
„ died in Hospital during 1938	3	—
„ in Hospital 31st Dec 1938	9	1
No. of Scarlet Fever cases admitted during 1938	50	3
„ Diphtheria cases	85	22
„ Erysipelas cases	1	1
„ Cowpox cases	—	1
„ German Measles	1	—

Average length of stay in days—28 days.

An analysis of total notified cases of infectious diseases is given as follows:—

	und'r 1 yr	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	5	5	5	20	18	3	8	2	—	—	64
Diphtheria	1	2	2	3	4	51	31	13	19	5	4	—	135
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	7
Pneumonia	—	—	—	2	—	4	—	1	5	8	7	7	34
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	4	10
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Shame Dysentery	—	—	1	1	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	7
Cowpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1

## TOTAL DEATHS

## RUNCORN RURAL DISTRICT,

CAUSES OF DEATH							Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES	...	..	...	.	...	...	206	182
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
3 Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4 Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
6 Influenza	..	..	...	...	...	...	1	2
7 Encephalitis lethargica	..	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
8 Cerebo-spinal fever	..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9 Tuberculosis respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
10 Other tuberculosis diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
11 Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	30
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	..	...	...	2	5
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	18
16 Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	43
17 Aneurysm	..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
18 Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	20
19 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	5
21 Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
22 Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	—

							Males	Females
23	Diarrhoea, &c, (under 2 years)	...	..	...	...	...	1	1
24	Appendicitis ..	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	.	...	...	...	2	—
26	Other diseases of liver, etc	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
28	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	4	6
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	.	...	—	1
30	Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc	..	...	..	...	...	5	7
32	Senility	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
33	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
34	Other violence	...	...	..	...	...	18	2
35	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	21	15
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	—	2

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, } { England and Wales,  
Maternal Death-rates and Case-rates for cer- } London, 126 Great Towns  
tain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938 } and 148 Smaller Towns  
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	Runcorn Rural District	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Pop'lation 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Population					
BIRTHS—					
Live ... ..	13.06	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still ... ..	0.53	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
DEATHS—					
All Causes ... ..	12.2	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers }	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet fever ... ..	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough ... ..	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria ... ..	10.12	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza ... ..	0.09	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
NOTIFICATIONS—					
Smallpox ... ..	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	—
Scarlet fever ... ..	1.89	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria ... ..	3.61	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric Fever ... ..	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas ... ..	0.28	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia ... ..	1.07	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	41	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ... ..	4.8	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY—					
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0.00	0.89	Not available		
Others ... ..	0.00	2.19			
Total ... ..	0.00	3.08			
MATERNAL MORTALITY—					
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	2.31	0.86	Not available		
Others ... ..	4.62	2.11			
Total ... ..	6.93	2.97			
NOTIFICATIONS—					
Puerperal fever ... ..	14.46	14.42	18.08	12.51	3.53
Puerperal pyrexia ... ..					15.46

### *Hospital Accommodation :—*

Special arrangements have been made to accommodate cases from the Urban District, the Urban District providing ambulance transport. Considerable use of these facilities has been made during the year. Cases from other areas of the County are received by arrangement with the County Medical Officer of Health provided there is a reserve of beds.

It is considered desirable to keep a reserve of beds to serve this area and the two orphanages and other resident institutions which lie within its boundaries.

Cases of Measles are occasionally admitted to Hospital where home conditions require it.

School intimations of disease, although not complete in this area, are of use, especially in mixed epidemics, and to check notifications.

### *Artificial Immunisation against Diphtheria :—*

The Diphtheria Immunising Agent T.A.F. is supplied free by the Council to Medical Practitioners, and is obtainable from Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Runcorn. The Public Assistance Committee of the County Council have made arrangements for immunisation of all children admitted to the Institutions controlled by them. This is carried out at the Dutton Institution in this area. These facilities might well be extended to rate-aided children resident in the area

3. *Cancer.* - There were 49 deaths from Cancer. 19 males and 30 females.

Year	Deaths from Cancer	Year	Deaths from Cancer
1920	27	1930	48
1921	30	1931	48
1922	31	1932	47
1923	44	1933	55
1924	53	1934	38
1925	38	1935	56
1926	35	1936	56
1927	36	1937	49
1928	45	1938	49
1929	42		

Radium treatment can be given at the Myrtle Street Hospital, Liverpool. Practitioners can obtain forms for the treatment of patients from the Medical Officer of Health, Sankey Street, Warrington. This district as a contributory area within the S. W. Lancashire, Cheshire and N. Wales Branch of the British Empire Cancer Campaign, is entitled to this privilege for its residents. As this district is situated mid-way between Liverpool and Manchester, it would be advantageous if equal facilities for Cancer treatment were provided for its residents at either centre.

4. (a) *Prevention of Blindness*—No action taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1935, or under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

(b) *Tuberculosis*.—

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulation, 1925.—No action taken.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.—No action taken.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.—No action taken.

## 5.

## TUBERCULOSIS

### *New Cases and Mortality during 1938.*

Age Periods.				New Cases.				Deaths.			
				Respirat'ry		Non-Respirat'ry		Respirat'ry		Non-Respirat'ry	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	...	...	...	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
5—15	...	...	...	—	—	5	4	—	—	—	—
15—25	...	...	...	5	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
25—35	...	...	...	3	1	—	1	2	1	—	—
35—45	...	...	...	3	1	1	—	1	1	—	1
45—55	...	...	...	5	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	...	...	17	5	9	8	4	3	—	1

Chester County Council Laboratory — Sputum examinations :-

Positive 15      Negative 84      Total 99

Statement showing number of Tuberculosis Patients on the Register of the Runcorn Rural Area on 31st December, 1938.

Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total All Forms	Population	No. per 1,000 of Population
M	F	Total	M	F	Total			
47	35	82	33	36	69	151	31,290	4.82

## Immunisation Scheme

On the 15th July, 1938 I submitted a Scheme to my Council for the Immunisation against Diphtheria of children resident in the Rural District and who attend local Public Elementary Schools or who are under school age, the approximate cost being £587-4-0 covering a period of two years.

My Council passed the following resolution : — "That no action be taken at present."

Pamphlets were sent to all schools, to be given to children, drawing attention to the necessity of immunisation against Diphtheria. Posters have also been distributed throughout the district and articles have been written and appeared in the Press on at least two occasions

There has been no general response to this appeal and it is unlikely that much progress will be made in this respect until a scheme (Ministry of Health or Local Authority) is arranged for immunisation at schools and other centres in the district. This applies to the Country at large and is especially important owing to the danger of an outbreak of Diphtheria when children are moved under any A.R.P. evacuation scheme.

## **Formalin Treatment of Diphtheria Cases.**

I have instituted a treatment for Diphtheria Nose and Throat Carriers which is proving successful.

The patients are given the treatment twice a day for approximately seven days while in hospital and are then swabbed prior to discharge—99% have been cured.

The treatment is also given twice daily for approximately seven days as below without swabbing : My Council have agreed to pay 5/- to Medical Practitioners for this treatment for all FIRST CONTACTS of a Diphtheria case.

The treatment is given at the patients' own homes and they are allowed to carry on their own duties while receiving the treatment, except in special cases of persons working in food stores. In these cases swabs are taken, and, if positive they are removed to hospital.

Prescription for Formalin Special Treatment as follows —

Formaldehyde	...	11%
Gelatine	...	2%
Industrial Spirit	...	15%
Ol. Menth Pip	..	1%
Aq. Dist Ad	..	100%

This has been costed at the rate of 4 - per quart.



Special Formalin Solution for the Treatment of Diphtheria (Nasal and Throat) carriers.

FOR NASAL CARRIERS—Dilute 1-20 i.e. Half a tablespoonful to half a tumblerful of warm water.

FOR THROAT CARRIERS And as a general preventative gargle. 10 drops of solution to half a tumblerful of warm water.

- 1—The patient should blow the nose hard.
- 2—A cotton wool compress is lightly twisted with a point about 4 c.m. long, so as to remain porous.
- 3—The plug is impregnated with a Solution of Formalin Special Treatment 1 in 20 and the plug gently inserted well into the nose. The plug should remain in position for half-an-hour and care should be taken to see that the patient does not move the plug from position.
- 4—During this time the patient should gargle with a solution of Formalin Special Treatment—(10 drops to half a glass of water).
- 5 At the end of half-an-hour the plug is removed. To avoid re-infection the patient must be forbidden to touch the nose. With children it may be advisable to bind the fingers with sterile dressing.
- 6—The treatment is repeated twice daily until at least three tests give a negative result. (Hospital Cases only).

In cases where the Formalin Treatment is unsuccessful :—

- 1—A Virulence test is carried out—and if cases are Non-Virulent, these are discharged, if Virulent, Formalin Treatment is continued or action taken as para 2 below
- 2—In certain children having unhealthy tonsils or Adenoids—these are suitably operated on, resulting in negative swabs.

## Annual Report of Canal Boat Inspector.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.*

Gentlemen,

In accordance with Section 249 Public Health Act 1936, I beg to report :—

24 boats were inspected at the Stockton Heath, Preston Brook and Norton Quays. The boats were in good order, and there were no contraventions.

Three separate cases of Diptheria were notified on boats arriving at Preston Brook, one in July, one in August and one in December. The cases were at once removed to our Isolation Hospital, and the boats disinfected. The outbreaks were confined to the one patient on each occasion.

Inmates of the boats inspected were 26 males, 25 females and 21 children. Nett Adults total  $61\frac{1}{2}$ . Number allowed by registration certificates ~76

Yours obediently,

G. W. LLOYD,

Canal Boat Inspector



